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FROM THE WOMAN WHO BROUGHT US NIGHT CHEESE...

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A MADE-IN-B.C. SOLUTION

The Chevron Refinery is seen overlooking Burrard Inlet in Burnaby on Monday. B.C.'s five-year-old carbon tax is being looked at by lawmakers in several U.S. states, including Oregon, where B.C. Environment Minister Terry Lake is set to address members of the state senate today. For the story, see page 3. ERIC DREGER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Teen girls accused in SkyTrain stabbings

Knife attacks. Police are not clear on a motive but they say two girls went on a stabbing spree

KATE WEBB
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Two teens girls with violent histories are in custody and facing charges after allegedly going on a SkyTrain stabbing spree late Monday night.

Transit Police spokeswoman Anne Drennan said just before 11:30 p.m. a 14- and a 15-year-old, who are well known to police, started an argument with two young women across the street from the Gateway SkyTrain station in Surrey.

That's when the 15-year-old pulled out an eight-inch serrated steak knife and took a swipe at one of the women.

"The woman, who was slashed on the forearm, received a cut several inches long which required stitches," Drennan said.

The two women remained at the station while the girls hopped on a northbound train and confronted another woman, threatening her with the same knife and slashing a seat during their tirade.

The teens then followed that woman when she got off at the Columbia Station in New Westminster. As she turned around to look at them, she was punched in the face.

The suspects then got back on the train and rode to Joyce-Collingwood Station in Vancouver, where they stabbed a man who was holding a pizza box.

"He was fortunately able to use the box to defend himself and ended up receiving a small cut to one finger," Drennan said. "He's very fortunate that he had the box in his hands to use as defence."

The suspects ran from that station and were arrested a short distance away.

Drennan said it is not clear whether drugs or alcohol were involved, or what the teens' motive was, but the attacks appear to have been random since they did not know any of the victims.

Transit Police are recommending charges of assault with a weapon, assault causing bodily harm, uttering threats, and possession of a dangerous weapon.

Drennan said this type of incident is "a very rare occurrence."

Looking for witnesses

- The Transit Police are looking for witnesses, and anyone who saw anything on the street, at a station or on the train is asked to call 604-515-8300.

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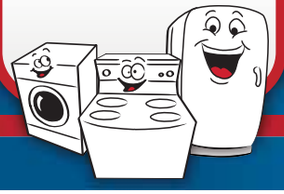

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Whistler area. Skier survives after being buried by avalanche

A backcountry skier survived after being buried for up to four minutes in a Whistler-area avalanche Tuesday morning.

Up to seven skiers were caught in a Size 2 avalanche when it swept down the Spearhead Glacier near the Corona Bowl outside of the Whistler Blackcomb resort boundaries around 11:20 a.m., according to Whistler RCMP Sgt. Steve LeClair.

A witness heard the skiers' cries for help and called the Blackcomb ski patrol for assistance. Whistler Search and Rescue, the ski patrol and a Blackcomb physician attended the area by helicopter.

The buried skier was unconscious when his companions uncovered him, but regained consciousness before rescuers transported him to a Whistler medical centre by helicopter.

He was taken to hospital as a precautionary measure and was alert and responsive, LeClair said.

The other skiers, thought to be in two separate groups, were flown out afterwards.

A Size 2 avalanche has the strength to bury, injure or kill.

Avalanche danger ratings are high for the Sea to Sky and South Coast–Inland regions for Wednesday and Thursday, according to the Canadian Avalanche Centre.

Before skiers enter the backcountry, the centre advises they should be prepared with avalanche-rescue equipment (shovel, probe and transceiver), first-aid supplies and knowledge of the risk.

EMILY JACKSON/METRO

B.C. Environment Minister Terry Lake is set to address a state senate committee in Oregon Wednesday about the early successes of B.C.'s carbon tax. ERIC DREGER/METRO

B.C.'s carbon tax inspiring the U.S.

Revenue-neutral. Environment minister has gotten queries from several states and even Washington, D.C.

KATE WEBB
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Rumblings in Washington, D.C., about a possible federal carbon tax are being informed by B.C.'s groundbreaking revenue-neutral model, Metro has learned, and so are discussions in several western states.

At least two draft bills are being circulated by a handful of Democrats in the nation's capital, despite the Obama administration's insistence last November that it would not push for a carbon tax, which Republicans are largely against.

"Our Climate Action Secretariat works with a lot of jurisdictions," B.C. Environment Minister Terry Lake said Tuesday via telephone from Oregon state, where he will deliver remarks Wednesday about B.C.'s tax to a state senate committee.

Nearly five years ago, B.C. became the first jurisdiction in North America to introduce a broad-based, revenue-neutral carbon tax.

The tax, which currently sits at $30 per tonne, contributed to a 4.5 per cent decline in greenhouse-gas emissions between 2007 and 2010, even as the province's GDP and population grew.

In addition to working with legislators in Oregon and California, the latter of which recently passed cap-and-trade legislation, Lake said his ministry has been consulted by Washington state and people in Washington, D.C., though he would not say who.

"There are people there that are interested, and we share information with them as well, so it's been sort of under the radar for the most part," he said.

Tom Potiowsky, a former Oregon state economist and the director of Portland State University's Northwest Economic Research Center, hosted a pubic discussion with Lake at the university on Tuesday. He said Oregon is impressed with B.C.'s model and, after studies are done, it could have legislation on the table as soon as 2015.

"If you would have called two years ago, we would have said there's absolutely no discussion in Oregon about a carbon tax, but things have changed pretty rapidly," he said.

"I don't think people thought about the (ability) of the carbon tax to lower other taxes — that neutrality part of it — so I think once people recognized that that's the real viable option, they warmed up more to the idea."

Green begetting green

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The tax contributed to a 4.5 per cent decline in greenhouse-gas emissions between 2007 and 2010, even though GDP and population grew.

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Ethnic outreach. Head-tax apology scrapped over 'quick wins' scandal

Plans by Premier Christy Clark's Liberals for an all-party apology in the legislature over the Chinese head tax fell apart last week amid concerns about the government's ethnic-wins scandal.

Burnaby North Liberal Richard Lee and Vancouver-Mt. Pleasant New Democrat Jenny Kwan said both parties were reviewing a draft apology that was to be presented last Thursday, but time ran out, especially for the NDP who had barely three days to consider the invitation.

The proposed March 14 date for the official head-tax apology also collided with the government's release of its own review of the ethnic-outreach strategy.

Deputy Minister John Dyble's review found serious misuse of government resources and staff in the leaked plan, which suggested formal apologies to ethnic communities for historic wrongs could result in quick wins at the ballot box. The report concluded the work lines between the B.C. government and the provincial Liberals were breached.

"Certainly, the timing was not the best," said Lee, who has been lobbying for years for a head-tax apology.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

We're No 1. Vancouver named Global Earth Hour Capital

Earth Hour hasn't even happened yet, but Vancouverites can already pat themselves on the back for being the greenest city.

The World Wildlife Fund named Vancouver the Global Earth Hour Capital on Tuesday at a ceremony in Malmo, Sweden, ahead of 16 other finalists.

"Being named the WWF's Global Earth Hour Capital is an exceptional honour for Vancouver and more international validation of our comprehensive efforts to be the world's greenest city," Mayor Gregor Robertson said in a statement.

The award goes to a city that takes an innovative, participatory approach to combating climate change, according to the WWF criteria. City council has created many such strategies, promoting carbon-neutral buildings and green jobs, local food production and urban gardens and making the city friendlier for pedestrians, cyclists and transit users.

Last year during Earth Hour, British Columbians turned off the equivalent of nine million 12.5-watt LED light bulbs, BC Hydro says.

Despite this year's top honours, Vancouver didn't save nearly as much electricity as other B.C. municipalities last year. It ranked 52nd in the province, with 2.1 per cent energy savings. Revelstoke topped the list with 12.1 per cent consumption reduction.

EMILY JACKSON/METRO

Reality raid

Man filmed in CBSA raid being deported

A migrant worker detained last week during a Canadian Border Services Agency raid of a construction site in Vancouver is being deported on Wednesday. Oscar Mata and others were picked up when the CBSA raided the site looking for a man they called "a previously deported person with a significant criminal history." The raid was filmed for the TV series Border Security, outraging activists and families.

LIAM BRITTEN/FOR METRO

Negligence lawsuit

Man suing Hyatt for shower injuries

A Hyatt Regency guest is suing the hotel, claiming he was badly injured when a bath seat broke while he was taking a shower in December 2011. Miguel Moreno's B.C. Supreme Court lawsuit alleges he injured his back and shoulders and the hotel should compensate him. No damage award was mentioned in the lawsuit filed in Vancouver on Friday. The lawsuit claims the hotel was negligent in ensuring the seat was safe. CARA MCKENNA/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Spring Advertising staffers "boink" on their pogo sticks on Tuesday outside their Homer Street offices. On Wednesday, Spring will be drawing on their pogo skills and those of the public to raise money for the Vancouver Food Bank Society. ERIC DREGER/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Take the leap and pogo for food bank

Get a jump on the season. PR firm donating 10¢ per hop to food bank

LIAM BRITTEN
vancouver@metronews.ca

Today in Vancouver, it's the first day of springing.

That's no typo: Today is Boink Day, a fundraising stunt that turns pogo-stick "boinks" into cash for the Vancouver Food Bank Society.

The public is invited to come to the Vancouver Art Gallery from 7 a.m. to 7 p.m. and hop onto pogo sticks. For every jump, Spring Advertising, a local PR firm, will donate 10 cents to the food bank.

Spring Advertising will also be on site, collecting cash and non-perishable food donations for the food bank.

Rob Schlyecher, a partner at Spring, says the company started Boink Day three years ago to help the food bank during a time of year when donations are light, and to celebrate the changing seasons.

"Spring is an under-celebrated season," said Schlyecher, whose pogoing record stands at 450 hops. "The first day of spring should be a big deal. Winter sucks in Vancouver. And I can say that; I was born here."

Over the years, Schlyecher estimates Boink Day has sprung close to $15,000 on the Vancouver Food Bank. The record for boinks stands at 250.

This year marks the first "Celebraboink Challenge." If famous locals show up, direct donations to the food bank will be given. The bounties are highest on Christy Clark, Adrian Dix, Gregor Robertson and the Real Housewives — each worth $150.

"We're hoping the event will gain popularity and people will know about it and attend, give us reasons to donate and donate themselves," Schlyecher said.

Lawyer to hold pipeline talks with First Nations

Prime Minister Stephen Harper has named an envoy to defuse the tension between First Nations and the energy and pipeline industry that threatens his plan to quickly develop Canada's natural resources.

Vancouver lawyer Doug Eyford will focus on energy infrastructure in Western Canada and submit a preliminary report directly to Harper by the end of June and a final report by the end of November.

He will examine First Nations concerns about the Northern Gateway pipeline proposal, as well as the development of liquid-natural-gas plants, marine terminals and other energy infrastructure in B.C. and Alberta.

"It is essential that we work closely with First Nations communities, in order to incorporate their knowledge and experience," Natural Resources Minister Joe Oliver said Tuesday from Terrace, where he announced Eyford's appointment.

Eyford is also the federal government's chief negotiator on comprehensive land claims, but Oliver said his appointment was cleared by the federal ethics commissioner.

Government officials said Eyford's reports will not be made public.

The federal NDP welcomed Harper's attention to First Nations concerns in natural-resource development.

But critic Jean Crowder said such a move would not have been necessary if Harper had listened to First Nations before opposition to the Northern Gateway pipeline and the government's resource agenda boiled over.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

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SkyTrain. Winery files lawsuit over Evergreen Line expropriation

The owners of the Peller Estates Winery in Port Moody are suing the provincial government, claiming it has put a cork in their business with the construction of the Evergreen Line.

The B.C. Supreme Court lawsuit launched by Andrew Peller Ltd. claims the company has been unable to develop the property for the past nine years, and a lease forced on it by BC Transportation Finance Authority puts its development plans on hold until 2017.

The lease wasn't agreed to by Andrew Peller Ltd., but gives the government rights to the entire 5.24-acre property for five years to construct the Evergreen Line, the lawsuit claims.

The statement of claim says the government's actions are illegitimate and inconsistent with B.C.'s Expropriation Act.

In 2002, the B.C. government and TransLink informed the company that its property could be needed at any time for construction and placement of the new SkyTrain line.

The owners claim their land has been in limbo since 2011 when they were informed part of the property would be needed for a hydro component of a SkyTrain guideway.

No dollar figure is mentioned in the lawsuit, but Andrew Peller Ltd. is suing, claiming lost profits, and that the "expropriation has injuriously affected Peller's property."

Plans for the $1.4 billion, 11-kilometre-long Evergreen Line between Burnaby and Coquitlam were announced in 2002, but construction wasn't approved until 2011.

None of the claims have been proven in court and the government has yet to file a statement of defence.

CARA MCKENNA/THE CANADIAN PRESS, EXCLUSIVELY FOR METRO

Religion. Inmates sue over Ottawa's decision to cut part-time chaplains

A group of B.C. prisoners is suing the federal government over its decision to cancel contracts for part-time chaplains, saying Ottawa has nearly eliminated minority faith ministries in federal institutions.

The lawsuit filed in B.C. Supreme Court claims there were only two non-Christian chaplains in all of Canada as of the beginning of March, and none in B.C.

"Prisoners do not lose their right to freely express their religious and spiritual beliefs by virtue of their incarceration," says the lawsuit filed March 14 in Vancouver.

At least one former chaplain has been refused entry to a correctional facility in the province since the federal government announced last October that it would not be renewing contracts for part-time chaplains, the court document says.

The decision came shortly after the Correctional Service of Canada said it wouldn't be hiring a Wiccan to minister in its B.C. prisons.

"Christian prisoners continue to have access to multiple Christian masses, bible study sessions and other faith-based activities every week," says the lawsuit. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Federation of teachers

BCTF chooses new leader

The B.C. Federation of Teachers chose Jim Iker to succeed outgoing president Susan Lambert as head of the 41,000-member union Monday night.

Iker, 60, hails from Burns Lake. He has experience as a kindergarten and primary classroom teacher, school counsellor, learning assistant and special needs teacher.

LIAM BRITTEN/FOR METRO

New Westminster

Cop quits over investigation into misuse of police data

An officer with the police department in New Westminster has resigned over an investigation into the improper use of police data.

Police Chief Dave Jones says no special severance package was offered to the officer, whose name has not been released.

THE CANADIAN PRESS

A file photo of landslide in Johnsons Landing, where thieves are stealing items from the homes impacted by the tragedy according to police. METRO FILE

Johnsons Landing homes hit by thieves

Evacuated residences. Months after a deadly landslide, community members have been 'victimized again' by recent rash of thefts

EMILY JACKSON
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Less than a year after a massive landslide shattered the Johnsons Landing community, resulting in four deaths, thieves are pilfering tools and other items from the homes affected by the tragedy.

Thieves risked their lives to break into the properties where warning signs are still posted to alert people to potential slope instability in the evacuated zone, according to Kaslo RCMP.

"It is indeed extremely unfortunate that not only were the property owners victimized by the original slide but eight months later are victimized again by criminals stealing their property," the RCMP detachment said in a statement.

The suspects entered four unoccupied buildings, including three residences and a garage, sometime in the past week, RCMP said.

A ride-on mower, a table saw and an air compressor were stolen from the garage of the home on Holmgren Road where three people were found dead after the natural disaster.

A snowplow blade, hand tools and two computers were reported missing by the homeowner on McNichol Road.

The third homeowner is still checking to see what was stolen.

Anyone with information about the thefts is asked to call Kaslo RCMP or Crime Stoppers at 1-800-222-8477.

Quote

"It is indeed extremely unfortunate that not only were the property owners victimized by the original slide but eight months later are victimized again."

The Kaslo RCMP said in a statement on the recent thefts in the Johnsons Landing community.

Arrest made in Surrey's 11th homicide in 11 weeks

A police officer stands outside a condo in Surrey after the city's 11th homicide. SHANE MACKICHAN/FOR METRO

Police have arrested a family member of Surrey's 11th homicide victim in 11 weeks.

Surrey RCMP responded to a 911 call for an unconscious female who appeared to be the victim of foul play in the 13000 block of 103A Avenue on Monday evening.

The woman was pronounced dead at the scene and the Integrated Homicide Investigation Team was called in to investigate.

Police identified Jackie Olson, 43, as the city's 11th homicide victim in as many weeks.

Police arrested one of Olson's family members, who has yet to be identified, early Tuesday morning in connection with her murder.

"This individual is currently in custody and IHIT are continuing to sort through the evidence and determine what led up to this tragic crime," Sgt. Jennifer Pound said in a statement.

EMILY JACKSON/METRO

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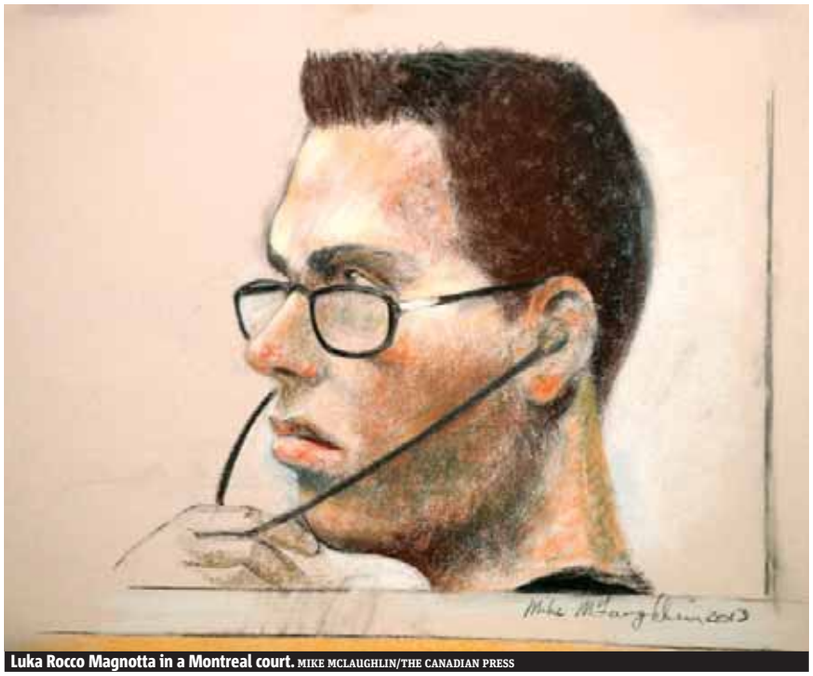
Luka Rocco Magnotta collapses in courtroom

Hearing postponed. Alleged killer fell after watching disturbing video evidence in case



Luka Rocco Magnotta in a Montreal court. MIKE MCLAUGHLIN/THE CANADIAN PRESS

Luka Rocco Magnotta collapsed to the courtroom floor after seeing video evidence presented against him, forcing a postponement in his preliminary hearing Tuesday.

Magnotta appeared distraught as the video played in the courtroom. When it was over, the suspect in a notorious killing-and-dismemberment case asked for a break. He stood up and fell on his right side, crumpling into a fetal position at the feet of a prison guard.

The evidence in the gruesome case is temporarily subject to a publication ban. It could be made public if the case goes to trial.

Magnotta was not back in court when the afternoon session began at 2 p.m.

"He really doesn't feel well and he's not able to continue," his lawyer, Luc Leclair, said.

Judge Lori-Renee Weitzman said they could not continue without Magnotta present. She ordered the case suspended until Wednesday.

During the morning segment, Magnotta had held his hand over his mouth, as if he felt ill. His eyes were closed for much of the session. The 30-year-old appeared to wipe away tears several times.

Even the judge appeared to be affected by the evidence. She winced slightly at one point in the video. Some police investigators present in the courtroom stared away from the screen. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Charges

Luka Magnotta is charged with first-degree murder in the slaying of Jun Lin, a 33-year-old Concordia University student from China.

- **Absent.** Lin's parents were not present Tuesday morning. His father has attended the preliminary hearing at times but he has not stayed in the courtroom when the most graphic evidence related to the case has been presented.

Manitoba. Mennonites sought parenting advice before assault charges laid

Leaders of an orthodox Mennonite community in Manitoba reached out for counselling and parenting advice before two members were charged with beating children with various weapons, including a whip and cattle prod.

Enos Bauman, 54, and his son Cleason Bauman, 29, face various counts of assault and assault with a weapon. The younger Bauman is also charged with assault causing bodily harm.

Court documents show the alleged offences involve seven children, boys and girls, dating back to July 2011.

The pair was arrested last week and released on bail under conditions that include avoiding the community.

Neither police nor the documents on file with the court have disclosed a motive.

Brad Reimer, a spokesman with the Mennonite Centre Committee of Manitoba, said Monday that leaders of the group came to Winnipeg last month and met with officials about "parenting concerns."

There was no follow-up, in part, because the community is so isolated. THE CANADIAN PRESS

Steubenville, Ohio

Coach, others may see charges in rape

The head football coach at Steubenville High School and the owners of a house where an infamous 12-minute video was filmed could be investigated as Ohio prosecutors look into how adults responded to allegations of rape last year.

State Attorney General Mike DeWine said Sunday he would consider charges against anyone who failed to speak up after the rape of a 16-year-old girl in August.

Authorities also proved they won't put up with people harassing the victim, arresting two girls Monday suspected of threatening her online over the weekend. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Kelowna

RCMP search for callous dog killer

Mounties in Kelowna have picked up the case of a heartless SUV driver and a grieving pet owner.

Police are searching for the driver after an incident on Feb. 28, in which the man ran over a leashed dog being walked by its owner.

While it was apparent the dog's injuries were very serious, the man refused to transport the bleeding animal in his SUV. He also refused to give the owner any information but promised to bring a veterinarian.

The man drove away and did not return. The dog was eventually taken to a vet but later died of its injuries. THE CANADIAN PRESS

BEING A VICTIM OF MARRIAGE FRAUD IS NO PIECE OF CAKE

If your new overseas love seems more interested in Canada than you — you could be a victim of marriage fraud.

Victims are left abandoned, still financially responsible for their spouse for three years.

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Desert tragedy. U.S. slaps ban on 60mm mortars after blast kills 7 marines

The fatal explosion of a 60mm mortar has prompted the U.S. Pentagon to immediately halt its use worldwide.

Seven marines were killed in the blast. Half a dozen were injured.

It happened during a training exercise in the Nevada desert at the Hawthorne Army Depot, a facility used by troops headed overseas.

"We send our prayers and condolences to the families of marines involved," said Maj. Gen. Raymond C. Fox.

"We mourn their loss, and it is with heavy hearts we remember their courage." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Weapon

The 60mm is a weapon that traditionally requires three to four marines to operate, but it's common during training for others to observe nearby. The worldwide ban will last until the weapon's safety can be ensured.

India

Woman jumps 3 storeys, fearing sexual assault

A British woman travelling in India jumped out of the third-floor window of her hotel room, telling police she feared a sexual attack.

The woman said the hotel's owner tried to force his way into the room by offering her a free massage.

She was not badly hurt but suffered some injuries to her legs, police officer Sushant Gaur said.

Police in Agra arrested the hotel owner over the incident. No charges have been filed. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

World's most powerful hear Pope's plea for the poorest

Francis' priorities. Pontiff says the weak and the environment must be protected, the 'omens of destruction' must be vanquished

Gov. Gen. David Johnston and his wife, Sharon, meet Pope Francis after the installation mass Tuesday.
L'OSSERVATORE ROMANO/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

He had them in the palm of his hand.

Princes, presidents and sheiks — not to mention thousands of ordinary folk — listened intently Tuesday as Pope Francis laid out the priorities of his pontificate.

The environment, the weakest and the poorest must be protected, said the first pope from Latin America.

"Let us be protectors of creation, protectors of God's plan inscribed in nature, protectors of one another and of the environment," the 266th pontiff implored.

Do not allow "omens of destruction," hatred, envy and pride to "defile our lives," said Francis, now officially the leader of the world's 1.2 billion Roman Catholics.

The comments came during the 76-year-old's installation mass, held on the steps of St. Peter's Basilica in Rome and attended by an estimated 200,000 people.

In Buenos Aires, thousands of people packed the central Plaza di Mayo square to watch the ceremony on TV screens, erupting in joy when the pope from Argentina called to them.

"Don't forget that this bishop who is far away loves you very much," he said, his words broadcast over loudspeakers. "Pray for me." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Cyprus votes down levy on bank deposits

EU financial crisis.
While protesters cheer move by Parliament, international bailout is now left in disarray

Protesters chant outside Parliament in Nicosia, Cyprus, on Tuesday prior to a vote on a controversial plan to tax bank deposits. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Lawmakers in Cyprus decisively rejected a plan on Tuesday to seize up to 10 per cent of people's bank deposits in order to secure an international bailout and prevent a collapse of the country's banks.

The vote leaves the tiny Mediterranean economy in limbo, but hundreds of protesters outside Parliament cheered and sang the national anthem when they heard the bill failed.

Still, Cyprus needs about $20.9 billion to bail out its heavily indebted banks and shore up government finances. If it doesn't get the money, the banks could fail, Cyprus' government finances could be ruined for years and the country could face expulsion from the 17-country euro currency union.

Eurozone countries and the International Monetary Fund have pledged to provide about $13.2 billion in rescue loans if Cyprus can come up with the remainder. With the country's banks closed since Saturday to avoid a run, Cypriot leaders will now try to hatch a more politically palatable plan that might also satisfy officials in the eurozone and IMF.

The plan that was rejected Tuesday — with 36 votes against, 19 abstentions and one absence — had been amended to shield the smallest depositors, those with under about $26,500 in the bank. But deposits up to about $132,400 are supposed to be insured by all euro countries. There has been widespread condemnation of the plan throughout Europe since it was announced over the weekend.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Quoted

"This is not the end of the process, but instead kicks off a further round of negotiation. The Cypriot authorities wanted to conduct the vote so that they could reaffirm the extent of their difficulties to the Europeans."

Alex White of J.P. Morgan

Sheer oversight. Lululemon recalling black pants that reveal too much yoga butt

Shares in Lululemon Athletica Inc. closed down $1.76 to $65.74 on the Toronto Stock Exchange Tuesday, after the clothing maker recalled some of its black yoga pants because they were too see-through and warned the move would hurt sales.

RBC Capital Markets analyst Howard Tubin noted it was the second product-related issue the company has had this year.

"Combine this with the problems they had with red and pink garments earlier this year and bears could start to weave a narrative that Lululemon is consistently encountering execution issues while growing," Tubin wrote in a note to investors, referring to problems with bleeding in some of Lululemon's coloured clothing.

The retailer pulled its popular black Luon yoga pants from store shelves because the material used to make them was too sheer, showing off too much of their customers' assets.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

A customer shops at Lululemon's Kitsilano store. THE CANADIAN PRESS FILE

Market Minute

DOLLAR 97.37¢ (-0.45¢)

TSX 12,773.87 (-7.89)

OIL $92.16 US (-$1.58)

GOLD $1,611.30 US (+$6.70)

Natural gas: $3.96 US (+8¢)
Dow Jones: 14,455.82 (+3.76)

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THUMBS DOWN — STOP TEXTING

JUST SAYIN'

Paul Sullivan
metronews.ca

I think we're texting ourselves to death.

I was reading a story by a relationship therapist who claimed that Canadians text eight billion messages a month.

The point was something like: "How can anyone have a relationship when there's all that texting going on?"

That seemed like a lot to me, so I went to the Internet and did some research. No matter how you slice it, the guy's right. We do a terrific — or is that terrible — amount of texting.

According to one source, we send 227 million text messages a day or 10 million an hour. Another says Canadians send 2,500 messages a second for a total of 78 billion a year. While we're throwing around numbers, that comes to about 10 a day per subscriber.

In the U.S., according to the Pew Internet & American Life Project, the average user sends 40 messages a day, but young Americans 18-24 send or receive 109.5 messages a day.

It's easy to conclude we're all thumbs.

These numbers correspond to my anecdotal survey: nine times out of 10, wherever I go, everyone else is looking down. I'm the only one looking up.

I've tried to pretend to look down and be like everyone else, but my heart's not really in it. I have to admit I'm tired of texting, tired of tweeting, tired of email, tired of not talking to other people.

Other people are actually pretty interesting, but only if you can get them while they're not texting. They're also not very interesting if their fingers creep toward their smartphone (41 per cent of Canadians say they keep their cellphone in reach at all times), nor are they interesting when they try to talk to you and text at the same time (18 per cent; at least they're trying).

It starts to get interesting when they try to drive and text at the same time, but not in a good way. An editor at Car and Driver found that it took longer to stop when he was texting than when he was legally drunk — an extra 70 feet, which is enough to drive you straight into the nearest tree.

So here I am texting you, and here you are reading this text. Whoops.

I hope you find this text interesting. I hope it encourages you to put away your smartphone and look up.

Perhaps you're not driving into the back end of the car in front of you at this very moment. Bonus. That means it's not too late to put the phone away and start relating to other people, like your spouse, parents, friends, colleagues, perfect strangers. It doesn't matter. They've been so busy texting, none of them will recognize you anyway.

Start small. Smile. Remember? That's something you do with your face, not your thumbs.

ZOOM

Hole-y, what a church

Empty building a sign of the times

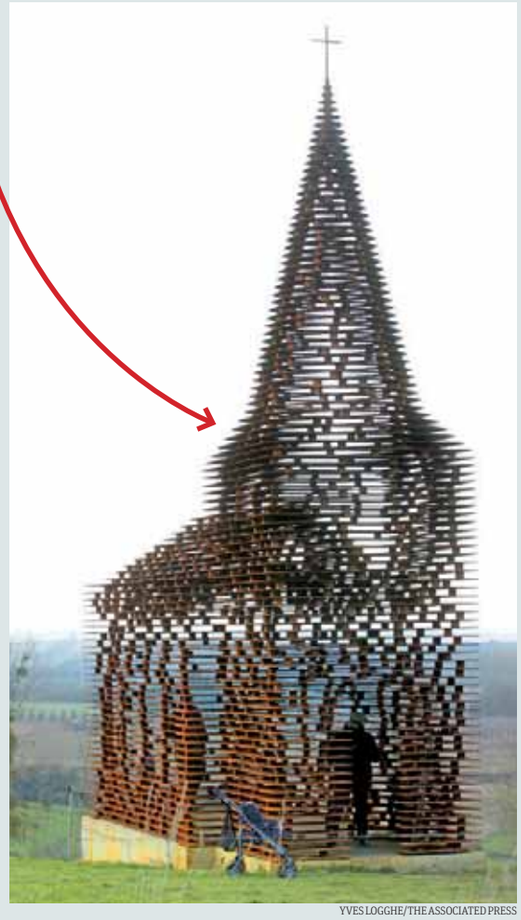
A see-through church stands on a hilltop in Borgloon, 80 kilometres east of Brussels, Belgium.

The artistic vision of the church is made of rusty steel beams separated by gaps, and its austere beauty won it an international architecture prize. Yet the eerie desolation of the see-through installation has also turned into a reflection on the state of Roman Catholicism on a religion-weary continent where real churches, like the dozen dotting the hills of this verdant area, increasingly lose their flock and function. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Interest across Europe crumbles like a wafer

Across large swaths of Europe, empty pews and empty pulpits are the stark reality of centuries-old churches in a continent where, not so long ago, the village spire was the main point of reference for society.

Pope Francis faces a daunting array of challenges, and one of them is bringing souls back to the historic heartland of the Catholic Church. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS



YVES LOGGHE/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

For example

- For signs of this decline, look no further than Paris, at the famed Notre Dame Cathedral.
- On Pope Francis' installation day, thousands of tourists easily outnumbered less than 200 worshippers in the pews, even as the ceremony on St. Peter's Square was televised inside.
- Many churches have been turned into restaurants and shops, or even demolished, often given a new function in society never intended by those who originally built them.

Lean structure wins award

This disappearing act gave Pieterjan Gijs, of the Gijs Van Vaerenbergh architecture firm, ideas.

The Borgloon art installation's layered structure allows visitors to see right through it, and this evanescence gives it a double layer of beauty and philosophical depth. It won the 2012 prize for best religious building by the website Arch Daily. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Clickbait

ANDREW FIFIELD
andrew.fifield@metronews.ca

Oh, sure, you'd love to come up with a blog idea so irresistible that smirking Photoshoppers can't help but flood your inbox with submissions. But how to get that precise mixture of clever yet simple?

Well, all you need is an hour in a quiet room with a list of magazine titles and a rhyming dictionary. It works like a charm.

Just ask whoever came up with Thumbs & Ammo, where guns are swapped with a cheery thumbs up and "real tough guys don't need guns, they just need a positive, can-do attitude."

thumbsandammo.blogspot.com

Twitter

@metropicks asked: Lululemon halted sales of black yoga pants for being too sheer. What clothing would you like to never be sold again?

@JennBarker82: Crocs - every colour every style!

@MEdingerReMax: acid bleached jeans, bell bottoms, corsets, and rugby pants

@Ketchum_All: Anything Ed Hardy..

@alangdon17: crocs, horrible horrible.

@bandrews14: suit jackets with shoulder pads. Who ever thought that shoulder pads was a good idea, or belonged outside of hockey or football

@DariaTuhtar: Cheap flip flops. I don't want to see your disgusting foot-shaped grime and sweat stains.

@CatBourque: clothing that droops below butt cheeks....

@duizerbarbie: was at Forever 21—acid wash jean shirt!–some things from the 80's should never come back

@Gnarlli: they WHAT?

@PengoMommy: Leggings with prints that are in stores right now. Unless you are under 12 or a stick you can't get away with it.

Follow @metropicks and take part in our daily poll.

WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU: Send us your comments: vancouverletters@metronews.ca

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Tina Fey's latest project has her starring alongside Paul Rudd in the movie Admission. HANDOUT

Fey's decade of comic clout

New movie. From SNL to a best-selling book to hit movies and a sitcom, the female comedian continues to break new ground

IN FOCUS
Richard Crouse
scene@metronews.ca

Tina Fey regularly appears on the Forbes' annual Celebrity 100 list of the most powerful celebrities. She's made the Entertainment Weekly roll call of Entertainers of the Year and Time called her one of the most influential people in the world. Did I mention she's also really funny?

For nine years on Saturday Night Live she worked behind the scenes — as the show's first female head writer — and on camera as the anchor of Weekend Update.

"She might be the best Weekend Update anchor who ever did it," said Dennis Miller. "She writes the funniest jokes"

Then came 30 Rock, the medium-rated but critically adored sitcom, a best selling book and a celebrated impersonation of Sarah Palin that even got the thumbs up from the ex-Governor.

This weekend she's on the big screen in Admission, a comedy co-starring Paul Rudd. She plays a Princeton admissions officer who thinks one of her new recruits is the son she gave up for adoption years ago.

Fey made her film debut a decade ago in the quirky comedy Martin & Orloff as part of an ensemble cast that included SNLers Amy Poehler and Rachel Dratch.

That movie didn't garner much attention, and her role of Southern Woman even less, but in 2004 she shortened the unwieldy title Queen Bees and Wannabes: Helping Your Daughters Survive Cliques, Gossip, Boyfriends, and Other Realities of Adolescence to Mean Girls. The story of high school in-groups was a hit and launched the careers of Rachel McAdams and Amanda Seyfried.

A comedienne

"She might be the best Weekend Update anchor who ever did it. She writes the funniest jokes."

Dennis Miller
Talking about Tina Fey.

She co-starred in Mean Girls as math teacher Ms. Norbury and made on-screen appearances as Front Desk Girl in Beer League but got her name over the title in Baby Mama.

She played Kate, a single 37-year-old businesswoman so desperate to have a baby she hires Angie, an inappropriate South Philly wild child (Amy Poehler) to be her surrogate.

Next was the stranded-in-big-bad-New-York-City movie Date Night opposite Steve Carell.

The movie wouldn't be as enjoyable as it is without the two leads. Fey and Carell breathe life into a hackneyed situation, bringing not only likeability, but also great chemistry and a way with a line that really works.

In the animated Megamind she voiced intrepid girl reporter Roxanne Ritchi, kidnapped by the master of all villainy Megamind (voice of Will Ferrell) and next year she stars with Ricky Gervais in The Muppets … again.

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Guess who's going back to rehab

Lindsay Lohan is heading back to rehab. After reaching a deal with Judge James Dabney relating to her car crash last June, Lohan entered a guilty plea to giving false information to an officer, reckless driving and violating her probation, according to TMZ.

Lohan was offered 90 days in jail but is allowed to serve out that sentence in a locked rehab facility. She is also on the hook for 30 days of community service, 18 months of psychotherapy, plus she has to pay fines and restitution to the victim in the car accident.

"This is it," Dabney told Lohan at the hearing. "You violate your probation, and we are not going to have this conversation about putting you back on probation." He also offered her some personal advice: "Don't drive," he said.

Lindsay Lohan

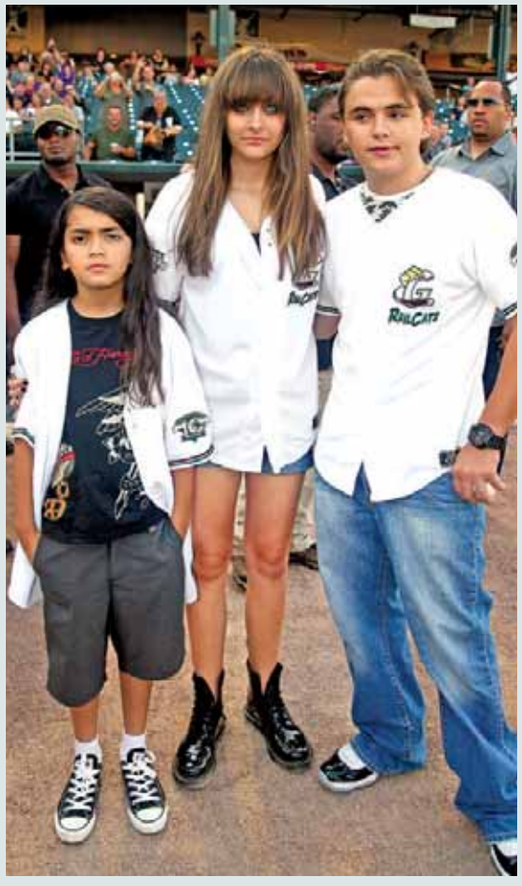
METRO DISH

OUR TAKE ON THE WORLD OF CELEBRITIES

The Word

Who is the father of Michael Jackson's children?

THE WORD
Dorothy Robinson
scene@metronews.ca



For years, I've gazed upon the children of Michael Jackson and wondered: "Are they really his kids?" What trips me up is that they kind of look like him, but only after he underwent his radical plastic surgery.

But then I remember that if he were still alive and "unadulterated," Jackson should look a lot more like Tito and a lot less like LaToya. I guess what I'm trying to clumsily say is that even with a white mother, Blanket, Paris and Prince should look more like a young Michael and a lot less like the crypt keeper he became. Also, holy cats: What a crazy family.

Anyway, it's looking more and more like MJ is not the father of his children (I knew it! Kind of!). According to TMZ, in their nasty wrongful death lawsuit against AEG Live (Katharine Jackson and Blanket, Paris and Prince are suing the entertainment giant for $40 billion for the negligent hiring and supervision of Dr. Conrad Murray during preparation for Jackson's This Is It tour), his family is asking to exclude any evidence of the true paternity of Jackson's children.

I'm unsure why the paternity would be entered into evidence — I'm far from a legal scholar — but the fact the Jackson family is trying to block this is telling.

Also, if the Jacksons do prevail against AEG, I hope they use some of those billions for therapy for those poor kids. Because even the best therapist in the land (Dr. Phil, duh) cannot go there.

Is Albuquerque's tourism industry Breaking Bad?

Drug-induced dilemma. New Mexico city is profiting from visitors scoping out sites from hit TV series, but is it a rep they want to promote?

A fast-food burrito chain in Albuquerque has become an international tourist attraction as people come from all over the world to see the spot where a fictional drug trafficker runs his organization. A pastry shop sells doughnuts topped with blue candy designed to resemble crystal meth. A beauty store has a similar product — crystal blue bathing salts.

As Breaking Bad finishes filming its fifth and final season in Albuquerque, the popularity of the show is providing a boost to the economy and creating a dilemma for local tourism officials as they walk the fine line of profiting from a show that centres around drug trafficking, addiction and violence. Breaking Bad follows the fictional character Walter White, a high school chemistry teacher turned meth lord.

Albuquerque has seen an unexpected jump in tourists visiting popular sites from the show and local businesses cashing in on its popularity. Tourists are also flocking to sites that before the show were unknown and unimportant — the suburban home of White, played by Bryan Cranston, a car wash that is a front for a money-laundering operation on the series, a rundown motel used frequently for filming and the real-life burrito joint, which is a fast food chicken restaurant on the show. The Albuquerque Convention & Visitors Bureau has even created a website of the show's most popular places around town to help tourists navigate, and ABQ Trolley Company sold out all its "BaD" tours last year at $60 a ticket.

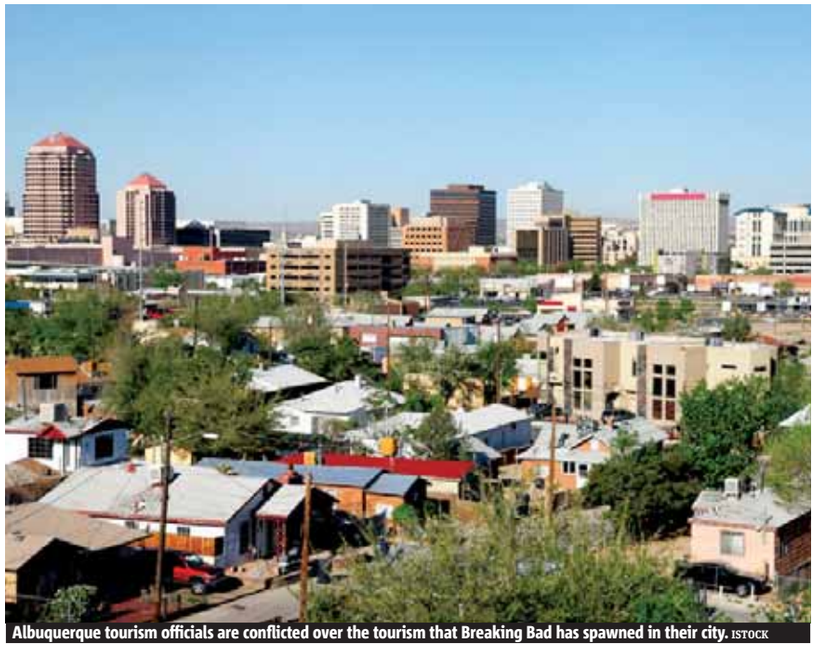
"They ask if they can take pictures. They ask if Gus is here," said Rachel Johnson, 19, a shift manager at the Twisters burrito restaurant in Albuquerque's South Valley, referring to the show's character Gus Fring, played by actor Giancarlo Esposito. The eatery has served as the location for the Los Pollos Hermanos restaurant where Fring runs his drug operation.

Tourism officials and business owners are quick to point out that they are walking a fine line in trying not to promote the dark themes from Breaking Bad. But their pride in the show taking place in Albuquerque — and the money that it brings in — is often enough to offset their concerns.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

If you go...

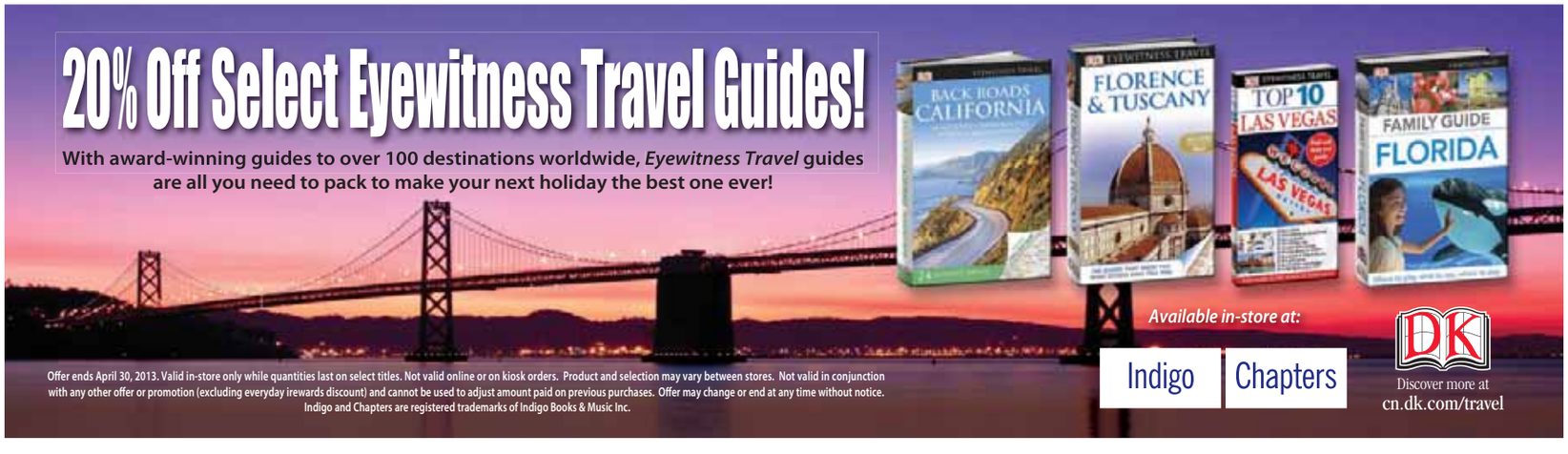
- **Albuquerque Breaking Bad locations.** itsatrip.org/albuquerque/arts/breaking-bad-in-albuquerque.aspx offers map for self-guided tours and other information from the Albuquerque Convention & Visitors Bureau.



Albuquerque tourism officials are conflicted over the tourism that Breaking Bad has spawned in their city. ISTOCK

Debbie Ball, 60, owner of The Candy Lady store in Albuquerque, displays her new line of "meth candy." THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Bryan Cranston as Walter White, left, and Aaron Paul as Jesse Pinkman in a scene from Breaking Bad. THE ASSOCIATED PRESS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There are probably more free things to do in the U.S. capital than nearly any other major city in the world. The most popular museums and the zoo are free, as well as the picturesque memorials and monuments. With so many free options, the biggest challenge might be narrowing down what to see.

PHOTOS AND STORY: THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

5 free things in Washington D.C.

Smithsonian Institute

No visit to the U.S. capital is complete without a visit to the nation's museums. First-time visitors learn fast that a trip to the Smithsonian is not a visit to one place. There are actually 19 different museums that are part of the Smithsonian, along with the National Zoo. Most line the National Mall. Some must-see exhibits: The Apollo 11 capsule that carried the first men to land on the moon, President Abraham Lincoln's top hat and Dorothy's "ruby slippers" from The Wizard of Oz, and the large Hope Diamond.

National Mall

The nearly four kilometre grassy expanse between the Capitol and Potomac River features memorials honouring five presidents, including George Washington, Thomas Jefferson and Abraham Lincoln, as well as Martin Luther King Jr. and battle monuments in tribute to America's veterans. One of the best times to visit is in the evening, as the monuments are lit and crowds have dwindled. Beyond the large monuments, there are dozens of smaller statues, historic sites and walking paths along the mall. The park also draws about one million people each year to see its famous cherry blossom trees when they reach full bloom in late March or early April.

Behind the scenes

Washington is a city where everyone wants special access and a look behind the scenes of power. One of the best ways is to plan ahead. Call your member of Congress to request a personal tour led by a congressional staffer. Visitors can also ask for a tour of the Capitol dome. White House tours are also normally available through congressional offices, though they have been halted temporarily to government budget cuts. International visitors can request tickets through their country's embassy. If you don't have time for reservations, the Capitol Visitor Center offers free exhibits and tours of the Capitol. Tickets are available online. A limited number of same-day passes also are distributed at the information desks each day. The centre also offers specialty tours on the Capitol's history and artwork.

Presidential sites

A walk through downtown Washington offers a chance to connect with presidential history. A short walk from the White House, Ford's Theatre, where President Abraham Lincoln was assassinated, offers daily tours with free same-day tickets distributed each morning at 8:30 a.m. Otherwise, advance tickets are $2.50 per person. Walk five minutes further from the theatre and visitors will find the National Portrait Gallery. Its most popular collection is the presidential portraits, including some of the most famous images of George Washington and Abe Lincoln.

Waterfront and Kennedy Center

Washington is increasingly embracing its waterfronts that were once neglected. New gardens and walking paths are bringing new life to these spaces. In Georgetown, a new park along the Potomac River has become a popular place to relax. Take a stroll along the water. Bring a picnic or stop for a late lunch at a riverside café. Then head toward the Kennedy Center along the river. This living memorial to President John F. Kennedy offers free tours with no reservations required. Arrive in time for the 4:30 p.m. tour of the theatres and concert halls. Then stay for a free Millennium Stage performance every day at 6 p.m.

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Spring into healthy eating with Greek Yogurt Chicken Salad

MAIJA MOMENTS
YummyMummyClub.ca

While I am all for deli-style chicken salad sandwiches on thick slices of white bread, sometimes the part of my brain that reminds me I need to be eating a little bit healthier pipes up and insists that some dishes can be made with health in mind.

It turns out, this recipe for Greek Yogurt Chicken Salad is as yummy as the original and can be made even healthier by using it in Chicken Salad Lettuce Wraps.

I also have to admit that I'll eat this stuff out of a bowl on its own, over rice or spread on toast. It's that yummy!

Skip the bread and opt for lettuce leaves instead. MAIJA MOMENTS OF YUMMY MUMMYCLUB.CA

Ingredients

- 2 cups cooked chicken, shredded
- 1 rib celery, chopped
- 4 slices cucumber, chopped
- 1-2 tbsp fresh cilantro, chopped
- 1/2 cup plain Greek yogurt
- 1 tbsp Dijon mustard
- 1/2 avocado, peeled, pit removed, sliced and tossed in 1/2 tsp lemon or lime juice if desired (the bottled kind is fine)
- 1 cup shredded cabbage
- 6 lettuce leaves suitable for wraps

1. In a bowl, add chicken, celery, cucumber and cilantro.

2. Mix in Greek yogurt, Dijon mustard, and avocado until combined.

3. Place equal amounts of cabbage onto each lettuce leaf and top with chicken salad. Roll and enjoy!

YUMMYMUMMYCLUB.CA IS AN ONLINE RESOURCE TO HELP BUSY WOMEN SURVIVE MOTHERHOOD

Learn how to brag and your resumé will thank you

Part-time shine. All those hours have added up to some exceptional experience

CHRISTINA PELLEGRINI
TalentEgg.ca

If you feel like your part-time retail experience won't impress a potential employer, you're probably not emphasizing the skills you strengthened, your sales achievements or what you learned about running a business on your resumé.

If you're hoping for a full-time career in retail on the sales floor or at a retailer's head office, your part-time experience is extremely valuable.

Here's how you can communicate what you did at these jobs on your resumé:

Quantify sales performance

Retail is a results-oriented business. While the numbers don't tell an entire story, they don't lie either. Retailers are looking to see what and how you will contribute to their sales team and numbers help prove your skills. If you excelled in a previous role, be sure to be specific about what you achieved and when you achieved it. You should include important performance metrics like total sales, average sale and items per sale within a time period.

Include the benchmark for each metric

How can a hiring manager compare how you performed to how you were supposed to perform if you only tell them what you did? They won't know how impressive your metric figures are unless they're in the same industry. Add context to your achievements by including the store's benchmark or minimum requirements for each performance metric. This will prove that you really did excel in your role in relation to your colleagues. This means you'll have to keep track of your performance (take photocopies, print out sales reports and relevant emails, and take pictures of merchandising layouts you worked on).

Display your commitment to learning

The top sellers tend to be the people with the most knowledge about products. If you attended any optional or mandatory product knowledge seminars during your employment, be sure to list how many and any key, transferable highlights from them. It signals to a potential employer that you're open to learning new things. TALENTEGG.CA IS CANADA'S LEADING JOB SITE AND ONLINE CAREER RESOURCE FOR COLLEGE AND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS AND RECENT GRADUATES.

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Discover careers at VCC

It's a good feeling to land a great job. Talk to VCC about your career options at one of these free information sessions:

Program	Campus
English for professional advancement (EPA) Wednesday, March 20, 2:30 p.m. – room 235	Downtown
Adult upgrading Wednesday, March 20, 4:30 p.m. – room 1227	Broadway
Hair design Wednesday, March 20, 4:30 p.m. – room 201	Downtown
Skin and body therapy (esthetics) Wednesday, March 20, 4:30 p.m. – room 201	Downtown
University transfer Wednesday, March 20, 4:30 p.m. – room 1227	Broadway
Medical transcriptionist Wednesday, March 20, 5 p.m. – room 2213	Broadway
Music Thursday, March 21, 1 p.m. – room 1228	Broadway
Administrative assistant Thursday, March 21, 3:30 p.m. – room 622	Downtown
Career planning and job search courses Monday, March 25, 11 a.m. – room 236	Downtown
Transportation trades Tuesday, March 26, 11 a.m. – lobby, building B	Broadway
Teaching English to speakers of other languages (TESOL) Tuesday, March 26, 12 p.m. – room 512	Downtown
Drafting technician Tuesday, March 26, 4 p.m. – room 725	Downtown
Office administration Thursday, March 28, 5:30 p.m. – room 819	Downtown
Paralegal Thursday, March 28, 6:45 p.m. – room 242 (library)	Downtown

Downtown campus is located at 200-block Dunsmuir at Hamilton, two blocks west of Stadium SkyTrain station.

Broadway campus is located at 1155 East Broadway, one block west of Clark Drive and across from VCC/Clark SkyTrain station.

Visit **vcc.ca** or call **604.871.7000**.

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Bring your selling skills to your next job

A position that pays. Expect to gain plenty of transferable skills with your job in customer service

LEAH RUEHLICKE
TalentEgg.ca

Retail reminds workers that a simple smile can solve sticky situations. ISTOCK

Working retail does allow you to gain some transferable skills that are valuable in any industry. Regardless of whether you are pursuing your passion for numbers and aiming for an accounting degree or planning to explore the healthcare industry as a registered nurse, your time spent behind the counter at a retail store might prove to be more beneficial than you realized.

Take a look at how those classic points that employers seek on resumés can be supported by your time working the kiosk in the mall.

Handle it!

Ability to problem solve and think on your feet

- If you're working on commission, you've got to sell — meaning you better learn how to handle that customer who says she's "just looking".
- Coming up with creative ways to make sales and converse with customers is going to impress any future employer — and in the meantime, maybe even make you that commission.

Excellent interpersonal skills

First and foremost, working in the customer service industry gives you the chance to spend your entire day communicating with people. You learn to be helpful but genuine. Friendly, yet efficient. You also get the chance to work with diverse groups of people, allowing you to experience and deal with a mixture of personality types.

Effective time-management skills

Your Monday 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. shift is followed by Tuesday's 12:30 p.m. to 7 p.m. and Wednesday's 5 p.m. to close.

A flexible schedule forces you to learn how to utilize your time to get everything done. Perhaps you are on the prowl for a more permanent position, or are still trying to fit your badminton games in three times a week. Working a job with ever-changing hours forces you to be on top of things.

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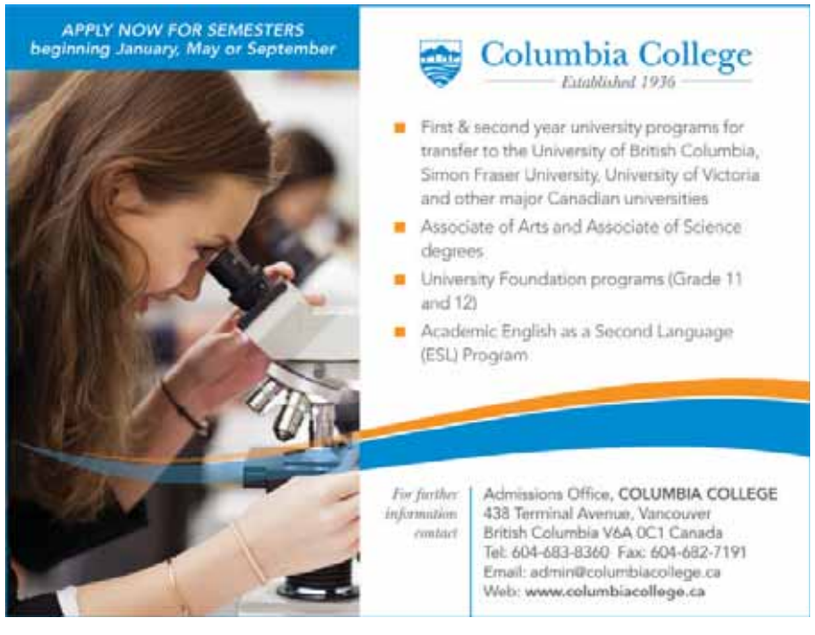
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MLS

Whitecaps' plan of attack is to stay back while on road

When the Vancouver Whitecaps play on the road, the belief is the best defence is, well, a good defence.

The Whitecaps tried to instill a more defensive style of soccer when on the road last season, and it seemed early on like that strategy was proving successful.

The Whitecaps then went 1-7-2 away from Vancouver and BC Place in the final four months of the season heading into the MLS Cup playoffs. They finished the regular season with a 3-10-4 record on the road.

However, with the Whitecaps about to play their first road game of the 2013 season Saturday against the Houston Dynamo, head coach Martin Rennie isn't going to deviate from the plan of playing a defence-first game.

"The teams that are picking up points on the road have a very clear game plan on how they go about doing it," Rennie said Tuesday.

"I've noticed in the games that we've maybe played better and possessed more and attacked more, we've lost. So that's probably not what I want to do."

CAM TUCKER/METRO

Head coach Martin Rennie is looking to keep the Whitecaps' focus on defence while on the road this season. GETTY IMAGES

St. Louis Blues centre Andy McDonald flies through the air while putting a shot on goal against Vancouver Canucks netminder Cory Schneider at Rogers Arena on Tuesday night. RICH LAM/GETTY IMAGES

Schneider stands his ground against Blues

NHL. Three second-period goals are enough to propel Canucks to victory

CAM TUCKER
cam.tucker@metronews.ca

The Canucks got strong goaltending, timely scoring and, wouldn't you know it, they won — just barely.

The first period of Tuesday's game against the visiting St. Louis Blues was all Cory Schneider. He was brilliant.

He was called upon to make 15 saves, stemming the tide as St. Louis pushed, unsuccessfully, for the opening goal.

His teammates decided to do their part in the second period, scoring three times in similarly spectacular fashion and driving the Canucks to a 3-2 victory at Rogers Arena.

The Canucks improved their record to 14-9-6 and move back into a tie with the Minnesota Wild atop the Northwest Division, though the Wild still hold the tie-breaker with more regulation/overtime wins.

On Tuesday

Canucks	Blues
3	2

Schneider's catalogue of first-period saves included a theatrical glove save on Blues defenceman Alex Pietrangelo, who had his shot from the hash marks labelled for the top corner.

Later in the period, Schneider stretched out with the left pad to stop Andy McDonald in close.

Jannik Hansen, Daniel Sedin and Dale Weise scored in the second period.

The Blues made it close, thanks to goals from Jaden Schwartz and Patrik Berglund in the final period.

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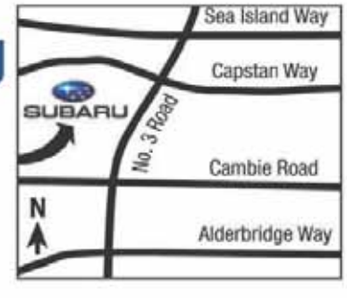

Jackets hang on to extend point streak to 11 games

NHL. Reeling Preds' comeback attempt falls short as they lose their fourth straight

On Tuesday

4	3
Blue Jackets	Predators

Sergei Bobrovksy shook off a slapshot to his mask and withstood two late goals and Mark Letestu had a goal and an assist as the Columbus Blue Jackets beat the struggling Nashville Predators 4-3 on Tuesday night to extend their franchise-record point streak to 11 games.

Fedor Tyutin, Nikita Nikitin and Derick Brassard also scored for Columbus, which is on a 7-0-4 run. The Blue Jackets won this one with their offence, which ranks last in the NHL.

Vinny Prospal added three assists.

Bobrovsky, who made 32 saves, came in on a 6-0-2 spurt with two shutouts in the previous eight games. Jack Johnson had two assists for the Blue Jackets, whose previous four games were decided by shootouts.

Gabriel Bourque, Chris Mueller and Mike Fisher scored for the Predators, who are on a season-worst, four-game skid.

Shea Webber added two assists but Nashville fell to 3-9-1 in its last 13 games. Nashville has allowed 20 goals in its last four games.

Pekka Rinne, who had been pulled in two of his previous three starts, finished with 27 saves.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Columbus Blue Jacket Mark Letestu celebrates his goal against the Nashville Predators with Nikita Nikitin on Tuesday in Columbus. The Blue Jackets held on to win 4-3. MIKE MUNDEN/THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

NBA. Cleveland next stop for Heat's victory train

LeBron James and the Miami Heat are about to play another game in Cleveland.

Yawn.

That's what a 23-game winning streak will do for a team.

It mutes even the LeBron-Goes-Home-Again hype.

Someday the Heat will lose another basketball game. Maybe even Wednesday, when the reigning NBA champions drop by James' old neighbourhood to take on his old team, which is beset by injuries right now.

Still, it could happen. It almost did in Boston on Monday night, save for James' game-winning jumper in the final seconds after Miami rallied from 17- and 13-point deficits to squeak past the Celtics 105-103.

But given how they wrapped up their latest W and what lies ahead, it may no longer be farfetched to think that the record of 33 straight victories set by the 1971-72 Los Angeles Lakers is within Miami's grasp.

"It means a lot," James said after the Boston game. "I know the history of the game. To be sitting in second place right now ... for us to be there and doing it in the way we want to do it, it means a lot."

It also means a lot that Miami won't be visiting many playoff-bound teams any time soon. Five of their next six games are against teams with the worst records this season.

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

LeBron James celebrates making the game-winning basket in Miami's victory over Boston on Monday. JIM ROGASH/GETTY IMAGES

NBA

EASTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
Miami	52	14	.788	—
Indiana	42	26	.618	11
New York	39	26	.600	12½
Brooklyn	39	28	.582	13½
Atlanta	37	30	.552	15½
Chicago	36	30	.545	16
Boston	36	30	.545	16
Milwaukee	34	32	.515	18
Philadelphia	26	40	.394	26
Toronto	26	41	.388	26½
Washington	23	43	.348	29
Detroit	23	46	.333	30½
Cleveland	22	45	.328	30½
Orlando	18	50	.265	35
Charlotte	15	52	.224	37½

WESTERN CONFERENCE

	W	L	Pct	GB
San Antonio	51	16	.761	—
Oklahoma City	50	18	.735	1½
L.A. Clippers	46	21	.687	5
Denver	47	22	.681	5
Memphis	45	21	.682	5½
Golden State	39	30	.565	13
Houston	36	31	.537	15
L.A. Lakers	36	33	.522	16
Utah	34	33	.507	17
Dallas	32	35	.478	19
Portland	31	36	.463	20
Minnesota	23	42	.354	27
Sacramento	23	44	.343	28
Phoenix	23	45	.338	28½
New Orleans	22	46	.324	29½

Note: division leaders ranked in top three positions regardless of winning percentage.

Tuesday's results
Indiana 95 Orlando 73
Milwaukee 102 Portland 95
Denver 114 Oklahoma City 104
L.A. Clippers at Sacramento

Wednesday's games — All times Eastern
Miami at Cleveland, 7 p.m.
Toronto at Charlotte, 7 p.m.
Orlando at New York, 7:30 p.m.
Milwaukee at Atlanta, 7:30 p.m.
Brooklyn at Dallas, 8 p.m.
Boston at New Orleans, 8 p.m.
Utah at Houston, 8 p.m.
Oklahoma City at Memphis, 8 p.m.
Golden State at San Antonio, 8:30 p.m.
Washington at Phoenix, 10 p.m.
Philadelphia at L.A. Clippers, 10:30 p.m.

NHL

EASTERN CONFERENCE

ATLANTIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Pittsburgh	31	23	8	0	110	81	46
NY Rangers	29	15	12	2	70	70	32
New Jersey	30	13	11	6	74	84	32
NY Islanders	29	13	13	3	86	96	29
Philadelphia	30	13	16	1	81	92	27

NORTHEAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Montreal	29	19	5	5	92	73	43
Boston	28	19	6	3	82	60	41
Ottawa	30	16	8	6	77	65	38
Toronto	29	15	12	2	86	83	32
Buffalo	30	11	15	4	79	95	26

SOUTHEAST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Winnipeg	30	16	12	2	80	86	34
Carolina	29	15	12	2	84	82	32
Tampa Bay	29	13	15	1	96	86	27
Washington	29	12	16	1	79	87	25
Florida	30	8	16	6	74	110	22

WESTERN CONFERENCE

CENTRAL DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Chicago	29	24	2	3	100	62	51
St. Louis	28	16	10	2	85	80	34
Detroit	29	14	10	5	78	75	33
Columbus	30	12	12	6	68	79	30
Nashville	30	11	13	6	70	81	28

NORTHWEST DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Minnesota	28	16	10	2	73	69	34
Vancouver	28	13	9	6	78	80	32
Edmonton	28	11	11	6	69	81	28
Calgary	27	11	12	4	78	91	26
Colorado	28	10	14	4	71	89	24

PACIFIC DIVISION

	GP	W	L	OL	GF	GA	Pt
Anaheim	28	21	3	4	95	69	46
Los Angeles	28	16	10	2	85	71	34
San Jose	28	12	10	6	67	74	30
Phoenix	29	13	12	4	77	82	30
Dallas	28	13	12	3	73	84	29

Note: A team winning in overtime or shootout is credited with two points and a victory in the W column; the team losing in overtime or shootout receives one point which is registered in the OL (other loss) column.

Tuesday's results
Winnipeg 3 Boston 1
Ottawa 5 NY Islanders 3
Pittsburgh 2 Washington 1
Florida 4 Carolina 1
Columbus 4 Nashville 3
NY Rangers 3 New Jersey 2
Buffalo 3 Montreal 2 (OT)
St. Louis at Vancouver
Phoenix at Los Angeles

Monday's results
NY Rangers 2 Carolina 1 (SO)
Tampa Bay 4 Philadelphia 2
Dallas 4 Calgary 3
Chicago 5 Colorado 2
Minnesota 3 Vancouver 1
Anaheim 5 San Jose 3
Los Angeles 4 Phoenix 0

Wednesday's games
All times Eastern
Tampa Bay at Toronto, 7 p.m.
Minnesota at Detroit, 7:30 p.m.
Dallas at Colorado, 9:30 p.m.
San Jose at Edmonton, 9:30 p.m.
Chicago at Anaheim, 10 p.m.

SCORING LEADERS

	G	A	Pt
Crosby, Phg	13	35	48
Stamkos, TBL	21	19	40
Kunitz, Phg	18	22	40
St-Louis, TBL	7	31	38
Kane, Chi	16	21	37
Staal, Car	14	20	34
Getzlaf, Ana	11	22	33
Tavares, NYI	17	14	31
Vanek, Buf	14	17	31
Voracek, Phi	13	18	31
Duchene, Col	12	19	31
Ribeiro, Wash	10	21	31
Datsyuk, Det	9	21	30
Semin, Car	8	22	30
Zetterberg, Det	8	22	30
Neal, Phg	17	12	29
Ladd, Win	14	15	29
Toews, Chi	14	15	29
Moulson, NYI	11	18	29
Stewart, StL	14	14	28
Parenteau, Col	12	16	28
Letang, Phg	3	25	28

Tuesday's games not included

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Another feather in Peter Schreyer's hat

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASE

2014 Kia Forte

- **Type.** Four-door, front-wheel-drive compact sedan
- **Engine (hp):** 1.8-litre DOHC I4 (148); 2.0-litre DOHC I4 (173)
- **Transmissions.** Six-speed manual (1.8); six-speed automatic (optional on 1.8, standard on 2.0)
- **Base price (including destination).** $17,500 (estimated)

Design

The Forte's looks for 2014 have been dramatically changed from play-it-safe conservative to fashionably sophisticated. The car contains elements of the Elantra, particularly above the beltline with its dramatically sloping windshield, while the distinctive familial "tiger nose" provides an important point of differentiation. Overall length has increased by about 2.5 centimetres, while the distance between the front and rear wheels has been extended by five centimetres. That stretch pays off in added legroom for front and rear passengers, but a lower roofline means there's a bit less total passenger volume than before.

Good design can't be translated unless the quality and materials are first rate. Kia brings that along in lockstep.

Engine

Also dialed back somewhat is the Forte's power. The new base 1.8-litre engine (also shared with the Elantra) pumps out 148 horsepower and 131 pound-feet of torque, compared with 156 horsepower and 144 pound-feet for the previous base 2.0-litre. The now-optional 2.0-litre four-cylinder (that surprisingly is not on the Elantra sedan's menu) produces 173 horsepower and 154 pound-feet of torque.

Fuel economy

Official fuel-economy stats (a touchy subject for Hyundai/Kia lately, given its recent recanting of fuel economy claims on certain models) have yet to be released, but the numbers for the base 1.8 should be in the 7.0-l/100-km range in the city and about 5.0-5.5 on the highway.

Review. Brush away the designer hype and you still have something special

MALCOLM GUNN
wheelbasemedia.com

Despite being an all-new model for 2010, the Kia Forte never really caught on in a big way. When you look at the numbers now, it really has nowhere to go but up, and with this redesign, that's where this compact is headed.

The new Forte that launches this spring bears the unmistakable influence of design chief Peter Schreyer. For the past six years, the former Audi stylist has been largely responsible for the style of Kia's fleet, as well as those built by its Hyundai parent. With Schreyer's assistance, Hyundai Elantra sales have more than doubled since the 2008 model year, while the Forte, which trails by a considerable margin, has experienced a more modest advance since arriving for 2010. The Forte's platform is shared with the Elantra.

A six-speed manual transmission comes with the 1.8, while a six-speed automatic is optional but standard with the 2.0 along with Kia's "Idle Stop & Go." This piece of new fuel-saving tech shuts off the engine when the Forte is stopped in traffic, then restarts it when the brake pedal is released.

Spending time aboard the Forte will prove comforting for passengers and especially pleasing for the driver who faces an intuitively laid-out dashboard and control panel.

He or she also has command over the level of steering effort with the Forte's optional Flex Steer system. With it, the electric power steering can be adjusted to comfort, normal and sport settings, with the latter offering the least amount of assist.

It looks like a cross between the Rio and the Optima, both of which are now fine automobiles. The Forte is a bit longer than the outgoing model, but also has less base horsepower. That's more likely in the interest of keeping the entry price down rather than in fuel economy.

Of the Forte's two trim levels, the starting-point LX leans to the simpler side of the ledger with its smaller engine, 15-inch steel wheels, basic audio system and the lack of cruise control or a keyless-remote-entry button on the fob.

Move up to the EX and it's a different story. Along with adding the LX's missing items, you can count on dual-zone climate control, a Microsoft-powered infotainment system, backup camera, glove-box cooler and 16-inch alloy wheels. Oh, and the optional 2.0-litre four-cylinder is also an EX staple.

But it's the lengthy option list that can turn the EX into a junior-sized luxury sedan. A navigation system, power sunroof, heated front seats and steering wheel, 10-way power driver's seat, 17-inch wheels and high-intensity-discharge (HID) headlights are all available.

By comparison

1 Ford Focus
Base price: $17,700

2 Nissan Sentra
Base price: $16,550

3 Honda Civic sedan
Base price: $17,000

Chevy HHR wagon a decent ride

Second Gear.
2006 to 2011
Chevrolet HHR

JUSTIN PRITCHARD
drive@metronews.ca

The Chevrolet HHR was a crossover wagon that rode the same platform as the Chevrolet Cobalt, was powered exclusively by four-cylinder engines and offered up retro styling, a flexible cabin and relatively low operating costs.

Look for feature content including Bluetooth, a sunroof, keyless entry, power accessories, leather-wrapped accents and more. Shoppers should note that LS models were the more "basic" HHR units, while LT models were more loaded.

Common Issues

Key concerns on a used HHR tend to centre around electric steering system failure, which could cause a loss of power assist. This may startle drivers and could result in an accident. Thankfully a recall addressed this situation, and your local GM dealership has more details.

Check the automatic gear shifter for proper operation, ensuring it shifts with no hesitation or difficulty. A faulty shifter button, cable and/or brake interlock switch could be to blame if that's not the case. You'll also want to note the ease of starting the engine and removing the key afterward, as some owners have reported issues with the ignition key.

Hard or aggressive shifting from a model with the automatic gearbox could be a sign of a problem with a sensor or computer module controlling the gearbox. Finally, note any clunking or popping noises, especially from the front end, which could be evidence of a worn-out suspension part.

Engine

Look for a 2.2 litre engine with 143 horsepower or a 2.4 litre with 172. Engine output was increased slightly in 2007, and all models got a four-speed automatic or five-speed manual transmission that drove the front wheels.

What owners like

Ride quality, handling, fuel mileage and interior flexibility were all highly rated by HHR owners taking to the web. Smooth and refined powerplant performance was also noted.

What owners dislike

Fussy seat controls, manual transmission shifter feel and rearward visibility, alongside blind spots, were among the HHR's more common complaints.

Verdict

Lower-than-average resale value combine with low running costs and high flexibility make a well-maintained, mechanically fit HHR a decent used buy. Just have that power steering system checked out.

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Mercedes-Benz Boundary
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(604) 639-3300

Mercedes-Benz Richmond
13466 Verdun Place, Richmond
(604) 304-6630

Mercedes-Benz North Shore
1375 Marine Drive, North Vancouver
(604) 984-9351

No purchase necessary. Contest starts February 1, 2013 to April 30, 2013. Three monthly winners to be drawn at each of the 4 Mercedes-Benz Vancouver Area Retail Group locations above on February 27, 2013, March 29, 2013, April 30, 2013 (12 winners total). Three Grand Prize winners will be drawn from all stores on April 30, 2013. One entry per maintenance bill. Number of entries depends upon the amount of maintenance services conducted. Full rules available at mbvancouver.ca

8 Auto products to get you hyped for spring

Getting the job done with less trouble and in much less time is what spring cleaning — the car and the garage — is all about. To help out, however, you'll need products that work the same way you think. The following were chosen based on their ability to get you out of the garage sooner while still producing the desired results. Wheelbase Media is not affiliated with any of the companies mentioned here. We just like 'em.

WHEELBASEMEDIA.COM

Stop opening every drawer

Z-Calz provides a set of magnetic or decal-type labels that clearly depict where each tool in your toolbox can be found and where it should be returned. Prices range from about $20 to $40 US. Order yours from zcalz.com, or call 909-225-2868.

ALL PHOTOS WHEELBASEMEDIA

Penetrating insights

The marketing arm of WD-40 claims that the product has a wide variety of auto-related uses, such as removing bumper stickers, road grease and tar, keeping both manual and power-operated antennas from freezing in winter and keeping your trailer-hitch locking mechanism in working order. Most hardware and auto parts stores carry both the spray can and pen-sized applicator.

We have a bone to pick

This rolling seat is ideal for performing bodywork, cleaning wheels or when washing and/or waxing your car without having to constantly bend over. Go to bonecreeper.com for more information.

Fresh air, at last

To get your stale air-conditioning system smelling good again, try Justice Brothers' AC-Clean bacteria killer that also uses a mild scent to let you know it's working. Visit justicebrothers.com or call 626-359-9174.

Meet the blob

Just pull the sticky CyberClean blob from its plastic cup and press it into the problem area, such as dusty interior seams. Pull it away and grime is gone. Visit cyberclean.net to find out where to buy, but you're likely to find it at Canadian Tire.

Keep a clean pad

According to the Grit Guard company, the Universal Pad Washer can quickly and easily remove contaminants from virtually any orbital buffing pad without it being removed from the buffer. You can order one for $135 US at autogeek.net/upw.html.

Light the way to work

The Striker Magnetic LED Lights from BISS Product Development has 12 magnets that allow you to stick the device in all sorts of places to help bring light where it's needed. Included are three alkaline button-cell batteries. It's just $7 US at strikerhandtools.com, or call 704-658-9332.

Fight seizures

The Mini-Ductor II uses a variety of coil sizes to provide extreme heat (red hot, actually) onto or around the nut or bolt precisely where you need it. Once red hot — there's no flame — a quick turn from a wrench is all it takes to free the offending nut or part. Order yours for $397 US from tooldesk.com.

SiriusXM

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Less Fuel. More Power. Great Value is a comparison between the 2013 and the 2012 Chrysler Canada product lineups. 40 MPG or greater claim (7.0 L/100 km) based on 2013 EnerGuide highway fuel consumption estimates. Government of Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on powertrain, driving habits and other factors. See dealer for additional EnerGuide details. Wise customers read the fine print: •, ‡, †, § The Dodge Dart Sales Event offers are limited time offers which apply to retail deliveries of selected new and unused models purchased from participating dealers on or after March 1, 2013. Offers subject to change and may be extended without notice. See participating dealers for complete details and conditions. Pricing includes freight ($1,500-$1,595) and excludes licence, insurance, registration, any dealer administration fees, other dealer charges and other applicable fees and taxes. Dealer may sell for less. •$16,980 Purchase Price applies to the new 2013 Dodge Dart SE (25A) only. ‡3.49% purchase financing for up to 96 months available on the new 2013 Dodge Dart SE (25A) model to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance. Dealer order/trade may be necessary. Dealer may sell for less. See your dealer for complete details. Example: 2013 Dodge Dart SE (25A) with a Purchase Price of $16,980 financed at 3.49% over 96 months with $0 down payment, equals 208 bi-weekly payments of $94 with a cost of borrowing of $2,492 and a total obligation of $19,472. †0.0% purchase financing for 36 months available on the new 2013 Dodge Dart SE (25A) to qualified customers on approved credit through Royal Bank of Canada, Scotiabank and TD Auto Finance on 2012/2013 Jeep Compass, Patriot and 2013 Dodge Dart models. Example: 2013 Dodge Dart SE (25A) with a Purchase Price of $16,980 financed at 0.0% for 36 months equals 78 bi-weekly payments of $217.69; cost of borrowing of $0 and a total obligation of $16,980. §2013 Dodge Dart GT shown. Limited availability. ◇Based on 2012 EnerGuide Fuel Consumption Guide ratings published by Natural Resources Canada. Transport Canada test methods used. 40 MPG or greater claim (7.0 L/100 km) based on 2013 EnerGuide highway fuel consumption estimates. Government of Canada test methods used. Your actual fuel consumption will vary based on powertrain, driving habits and other factors. See dealer for additional EnerGuide details. 2013 Dodge Dart AERO (Late Availability) – Hwy: 4.8 L/100 km (59 MPG) and City: 7.3 L/100 km (39 MPG). **Based on 2013 *Ward's* upper small sedan costing under $25,000. ™The SiriusXM logo is a registered trademark of SiriusXM Satellite Radio Inc. ®Jeep is a registered trademark of Chrysler Group LLC.

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2013 Dodge Dart GT shown.§

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10 WARD'S Best Interiors

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Dodge.ca/Dart

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CHRYSLER Jeep DODGE RAM

Wash your car thoroughly to remove winter grime. JIL MCINTOSH/METRO

Show your car some love as the weather heats up

Spring cleaning. Get rid of winter grime that can damage your car's components

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

It often feels like it takes forever, but eventually winter turns into spring. And when it does, your car will benefit from some extra attention to get it ready for nicer weather.

"First and foremost, know how your vehicle handled itself through the winter," says Ben Spatafora, national director for CarCostCanada. "Imperfections will usually come to the surface through inclement weather."

Thoroughly clean the car inside and out to get rid of winter grime. Salt build-up on the underside can eventually damage the components. Spraying under the car with a pressure washer or high-powered hose at the coin-operated wash can help to remove much of this.

Salt can also affect the interior, building up on carpets and corroding the metal mounting brackets that hold the seats in. Cleaning the floor completely will help prevent expensive damage.

When the car is clean, look for small scrapes or dings that could turn into rust if they're not touched up. There can also be hidden damage, especially since you might have hit potholes or curbs that were hidden by snow. "It's not a bad idea to get the vehicle inspected by a licensed mechanic," Spatafora says. "Have him inspect the components for damage and imperfections."

A lot has happened under the hood all winter, as well. Engine oil tends to get thicker in cold weather and thinner with heat, so oil companies blend different viscosities for optimum performance. Changing your oil in spring to a summer weight will remove dirty oil that's past its prime and replace it with the appropriate summer blend.

Extreme temperatures are hard on rubber parts, so have the technician check all of the hoses and belts to be sure they haven't cracked or softened.

Plastic headlights can oxidize and turn cloudy. Auto parts stores sell easy-to-use kits to polish them, which will improve your visibility at night.

Tips

- Whenever you're driving, listen for any unusual noises in your car, or changes in the way the brakes or steering feel. If you catch problems early, repairs usually cost less.
- If you use winter tires, switch to all-season or summer tires as soon as the weather turns warmer, to avoid premature wear on them.

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Sorento SX shown△

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AVAILABLE ALL-WHEEL DRIVE

Sportage SX shown△

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- MORE HORSEPOWER THAN MAZDA CX-5[5]
- 2 MORE YEARS WARRANTY THAN NISSAN ROGUE[6]

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bi-weekly for 60 months, amortized over 84 months with **$0 DOWN PAYMENT.** $6,906 remaining balance. Offer includes delivery, destination and fees of $1,772 and **$750 LOAN SAVINGS[5].** **BASED ON A PURCHASE PRICE OF $23,767.** Offer based on 2013 Sportage LX MT FWD.

Soul 4u shown△

2013 SOUL — AIR, KEYLESS ENTRY & SATELLITE RADIO

HWY (M/T): 6.7L/100KM CITY (M/T): 8.5L/100KM

OWN IT FROM $126^ BI-WEEKLY | WITH $0 DOWN | AT 2.49% APR FOR UP TO 60 MONTHS

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- MORE PASSENGER VOLUME THAN NISSAN CUBE[9]

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Heavy foot? Honda's Econ function fixes that

Driving Force. Fuel savings may be as high as six per cent

JIL MCINTOSH
drive@metronews.ca

No matter what type of vehicle you're driving, your fuel economy will improve if you keep a light foot on the throttle. Many automakers are now making it easier by including an "Economy" button that will help do it for you.

"The Econ button has the ability to make you drive gently," says Hayato Mori, manager of product planning for Honda Canada. "It will feel like your engine just went down one size. The car functions fine, but if you're used to certain acceleration, you sacrifice a bit of performance for fuel (savings)."

The Econ button affects the throttle response and air conditioning, along with the transmission on automatic-equipped vehicles.

Most cars no longer have a cable or mechanical linkage connecting the throttle pedal to the engine. Instead, your foot pressure on the pedal sends an electronic signal to a computer that determines how much fuel to send to the engine.

Since hard "jackrabbit starts" are wasteful, the Econ system regulates a gentler throttle response, although you'll still have power to get up to speed or to pass other traffic.

Staying in a lower gear as your speed increases makes your engine work harder. An automatic transmission will always shift gears when the engine speed is high enough that the next gear is appropriate. But in Econ mode, the transmission will shift into the higher gears as soon as possible to reduce the load on the engine, which also saves fuel.

The Econ system won't have any control over a manual transmission, where it's up to the driver to shift gears, but there may be an upshift light in the dash. This advises the driver, based on the engine speed, when he should shift to a higher gear for better fuel economy.

Finally, when the Econ button is activated and the air conditioning is on, the system will limit the length of time the a/c condenser runs. The condenser uses engine power, so while the cabin may be slightly warmer than with full a/c, you'll notice a difference in fuel consumption.

Several Honda vehicles have lights in the instrument cluster, which coach you to drive more efficiently by changing from green to blue if your foot's too heavy. "If you follow the coaching lights and use the Econ button, you can get up to four and possibly six per cent savings in fuel," Mori says.

More tips

- Many vehicles have a "Sport" button, which works opposite to an Econ button: it quickens throttle response, holds lower gears longer, and on some, tightens the steering feel for sportier performance.
- Your fuel economy will always improve if you accelerate gently, and use steady throttle pressure to maintain your speed.

Fuel economy goes up by using the Econ function, but a little bit of performance is sacrificed. COURTESY HONDA CANADA

No need for flannel with Forester's new technology

AUTO PILOT
Mike Goetz
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Some technological shifts take place over decades. Others take longer. We're still waiting, for example, for banking institutions to take less than five business days to clear a local cheque, even though they collectively possess more data transfer technology than the team of international engineers working on the World Space Station.

But let's talk about a technological shift that's more fun — how vehicle off-road technology is evolving from hardware to software.

Before computers crept into vehicles, if you wanted to go up a rugged hill with a 35-degree slope, you needed a squarish Jeep or Land Rover complete with locking differentials and hubs, a set of lower gears, a transfer case to select 4x4 and those lower gears, stiffer and bigger springs, skids plates, and tires so knobby that ground squirrels could live in their grooves for weeks. All manly and beefy stuff.

And the driving itself was equally rugged. Levers had to be pulled with some force. Braking, steering, shifting and gas pedalling all needed to be ratcheted up several notches over normal "on-pavement" standards.

You might step into an off-road vehicle like a highly evolved man or woman, but once fully 4x4 engaged, you would start grunting instead of using your words, shirt material would magically turn to flannel and your shut-down chainsaw would intermittently murmur in anticipation.

But no such transformation took place last week when we had an opportunity to try out the all-new 2014 Subaru Forester and its new-fangled off-road system. To keep Forester as one of the more capable off-roaders in its segment, Subaru updated its AWD system, but not so much with anything meaty and metally — more by making it smarter, through software.

Unlike the previous system, this AWD system talks to the steering wheel, the yaw rate sensor (how the vehicle rotates on its centre axis), and a device that measures transverse acceleration (I only wish I knew how to explain that).

Also new is X-Mode. Hit the X-mode switch on the console and Forester is transformed into a slow-speed off-road rock star (only works under 40 km/hr).

Some of the things it does: makes the throttle easier to feed in small amounts of power when going uphill; makes the throttle easier to more quickly feed in power when traversing rough roads and keeps a lower gear longer with no torque convertor lock-up.

Because the VDC system is already capable of applying brakes and throttle to keep a vehicle from spinning out of control, Subaru uses the functions to give us X-Mode's "Hill Descent" feature. Just point the vehicle down a steep hill and keep your feet off the brakes and throttle — and steer. The system automatically brakes and maintains the appropriate speed.

A final thought: after the Forester and I climbed a very steep and craggy hill, and then came down it in Hill Descent mode, and I was suitably impressed, I thought I would walk back up the hill for photo opportunities. All I had to work with was my two untechno legs, and I couldn't believe how easy it was, and how well suited they were for that task. Don't know where to go with that, just thought I would mention it.

Why is our correspondent driving the 2014 Subaru Forester with two wheels on a roller? Apparently, "it's fun." It was also Subaru's way of showing how cleverly the Forester's AWD system could carry on when both wheels on one side of the vehicle were completely traction deprived. CONTRIBUTED

Horoscopes

♈ Aries
March 21 - April 20
As of today, all the pieces of your jigsaw that failed to fit will at last fall into place. You will know who you are, what you want and that surely you will get it.

♉ Taurus
April 21 - May 21
You seem to feel guilty about something and with the Sun moving into the most sensitive area of your chart today, it could all get a bit much for you. Get a grip!

♊ Gemini
May 22 - June 21
Don't leave people guessing today. Tell them exactly what you mean. Over the next few weeks, you will find it easy to win friends and influence people. So, speak up and when necessary, speak loudly.

♋ Cancer
June 22 - July 23
You can and you must pursue your own ambitions, whatever they might be. According to the planets, this is a make or break time as far as your reputation is concerned. Be positive and be ready to move up.

♌ Leo
July 24 - Aug. 23
You may find yourself called upon to help someone in need today and, of course, you will assist in any way you can. However, do not — repeat, not — lend them money because chances are you won't see it again.

♍ Virgo
Aug. 24 - Sept. 23
If you have fallen out with a friend or family member now is the time to kiss and make up. But make sure any apology you make sounds sincere or you could find yourself in deeper water than before.

♎ Libra
Sept. 24 - Oct. 23
Your needs must come first. As the Sun moves into your opposite sign today so partners and colleagues will expect you to do everything for them. Put your foot down right from the start, on their toes if necessary!

♏ Scorpio
Oct. 24 - Nov. 22
Don't leave anything to chance: Stay on top of work and money matters and make sure you are the only one who can make things happen. If you let others make decisions for you, they may take your power.

♐ Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
There is excitement in the air. You know that something wonderful is going to happen. And so it is, but don't be too disappointed if it is not quite as wonderful as you expected. It will get better as time goes on.

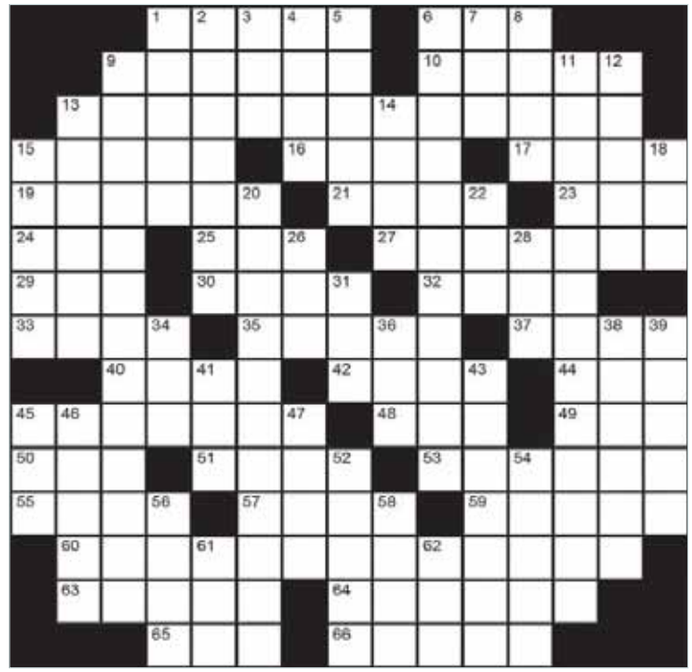
♑ Capricorn
Dec. 22 - Jan. 20
There are days when all you want to do is watch the world go by from the safety of your armchair, and this is one of them. Not even a Capricorn can be a mover and shaker all the time.

♒ Aquarius
Jan. 21 - Feb. 19
Your mind may be full of good ideas but how many of them will see the light of day? Too often in the past you have failed to follow up on your insights, but now you must. It's your turn to shine.

♓ Pisces
Feb. 20 - March 20
The Sun may be leaving your sign but that does not mean the good times are ending. On the contrary, you will soon enjoy rewards of the efforts you made in recent weeks. SALLY BROMPTON

Crossword: Canada Across and Down

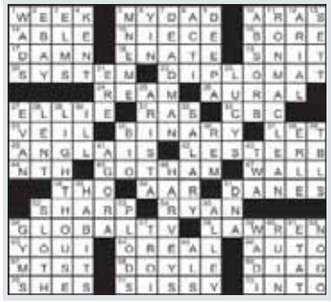
BY KELLY ANN BUCHANAN



Across
1. Salma Hayek movie
6. Dance style
9. Shut
10. Wiseguy, Smart __ [var. sp.]
13. "Wondering Where the Lions Are" singer/songwriter: 2 wds.
15. Erased
16. Knight's heraldic wreath
17. Enjoy a novel
19. Namesakes of Mario's brother in Nintendo games
21. Lunchtime
23. "Law & Order: _ _ _"
24. Assn.
25. Lid's protectee
27. Like the stone of a foot file
29. Fitness system, __ Bo
30. Rosebud, for one
32. Prong
33. Word segment, for short
35. Grassland of South Africa
37. Empire of Peru
40. Ms. O'Grady of "Eight Is Enough"
42. Toward: French
44. Carson Daly's li'l old MTV show
45. Coming into sight: 2 wds.
48. Big Apple toy store, _ _ _ Schwarz
49. Vintage auto
50. Utah's capital [acronym]
51. Cup _' __ (Hot drink, informally)
53. Boorish beings in Jonathan Swift's book Gulliver's Travels
55. North Pole laugh: 2 wds.
57. Village People hit
59. Gets boring
60. One of Queen Elizabeth's royal residences: 2 wds.
63. Fresco-__ (Painting technique)
64. Permeates
65. "Ich bin __ Berliner."
66. Feats

Down
1. Thrown site of the Canadian Pacific Railway's 'Last Spike'
2. Western Canada mountains
3. 'Expert' suffix
4. Design style, Art __
5. Embellish
6. Fast food item for 'to go' customers: 2 wds.
7. Religious robe
8. Fear: French
9. 1885: British Columbia
11. Croissants: 2 wds.
12. Card deck's Jack
13. __-__ and DVD
14. Hoof sound
15. Ink stains
18. Flop
20. Ian's folk duo partner: 2 wds.
22. Acr. for first-last names only people
26. Wide shoe width
28. 'Tortell' ender (Stuffed pasta)
31. Gladiator's 555
34. "Well, __-di-dah!"
36. Word's meaning, for short
38. Elvis flick, "King __" (1958)
39. At _ __ for words
41. Prefix with 'classical'
43. Dishwater bubbles, but just one here: 2 wds.
45. Informally seat theatre-goers
46. Works the land
47. Record deal dreamer's creation, commonly
52. Bitter
54. Detests
56. Irish film of 2006 about two songwriters
58. Pinnacle
61. 601 in ancient Rome
62. Homer's dad on "The Simpsons"

Yesterday's Crossword



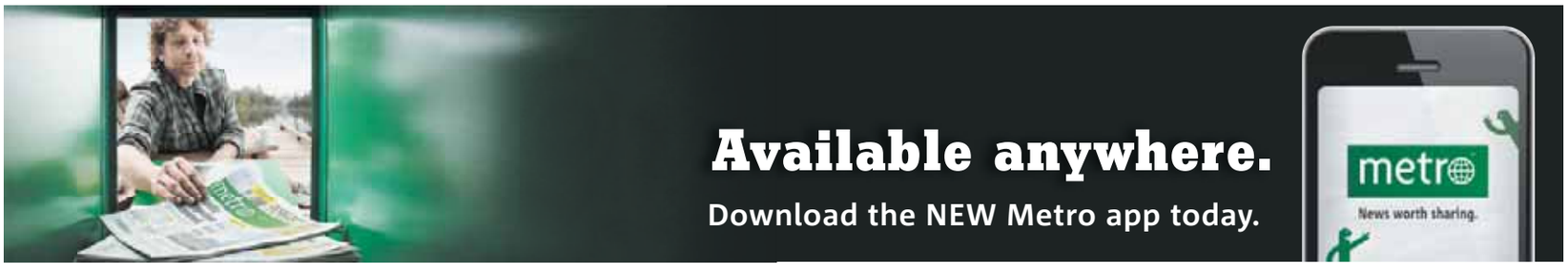
Sudoku

How to play
Fill in the grid, so that every row, every column and every 3x3 box contains the digits 1-9. There is no math involved.

1		8	3		6	2		7
		6	5		1	8		
	5						4	
			9		2			
2								8
			4		8			
	6						8	
		4	8		3	9		
7		1	2		5	4		3

Yesterday's Sudoku

6	2	3	5	4	7	1	8	9
7	4	1	9	3	8	5	6	2
8	9	5	6	1	2	4	3	7
2	5	6	4	6	1	9	7	3
1	3	6	7	9	5	8	2	4
4	7	9	2	8	3	6	1	5
5	6	7	8	2	4	3	9	1
9	1	2	3	5	6	7	4	8
3	8	4	1	7	9	2	5	6



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HAVE IT ALL SALES EVENT

0%† FINANCING FOR UP TO 84 MONTHS ON SELECT MODELS

OR GET UP TO $10,000 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ

Limited model shown

2013 SANTA FE 2.4L FWD

2013 CANADIAN UTILITY VEHICLE OF THE YEAR

HWY: 6.7L/100 KM
CITY: 10.1L/100 KM

OWN IT FOR	WITH	AND	OR	GET UP TO	SELLING PRICE:
$167 BI-WEEKLY	1.99%† FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS	$0 DOWN PAYMENT		$2,000 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ ON SELECT TRIMS	$28,259♦ SANTA FE 2.4L FWD AUTO. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

GLS model shown

2013 ACCENT L

2012 BEST NEW SMALL CAR (UNDER $21K)

HWY: 5.3L/100 KM
CITY: 7.1L/100 KM

OWN IT FOR	WITH	AND	OR	GET UP TO	SELLING PRICE:
$82 BI-WEEKLY	0%† FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS	$0 DOWN PAYMENT		$1,250 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ ON SELECT TRIMS	$14,894♦ ACCENT 4 DR L 6-SPEED MANUAL. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

INCLUDES $750 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ

SE with Tech. shown

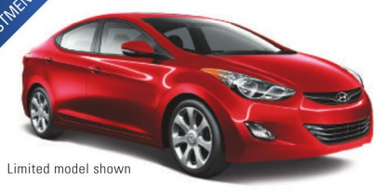
2013 ELANTRA GT GL

2013 BEST NEW SMALL CAR (OVER $21K)

HWY: 5.3L/100 KM
CITY: 7.8L/100 KM

OWN IT FOR	WITH	AND	OR	GET UP TO	SELLING PRICE:
$110 BI-WEEKLY	0%† FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS	$0 DOWN PAYMENT		$2,000 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ ON SELECT TRIMS	$19,894♦ ELANTRA GT GL 6-SPEED MANUAL. DELIVERY, DESTINATION & $750 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ INCLUDED.

INCLUDES $500 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ



Limited model shown

2013 ELANTRA L

2012 CANADIAN & NORTH AMERICAN CAR OF THE YEAR

HWY: 5.2L/100 KM
CITY: 7.1L/100 KM

OWN IT FOR	WITH	AND	OR	GET UP TO	SELLING PRICE:
$94 BI-WEEKLY	0%† FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS	$0 DOWN PAYMENT		$1,750 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ ON SELECT TRIMS	$16,944♦ ELANTRA L 6-SPEED MANUAL. DELIVERY, DESTINATION & $500 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ INCLUDED.

Limited model shown

2013 TUCSON L

HWY: 7.7L/100 KM
CITY: 10.4L/100 KM

OWN IT FOR	WITH	AND	OR	GET UP TO	SELLING PRICE:
$124 BI-WEEKLY	0.99%† FINANCING FOR 84 MONTHS	$0 DOWN PAYMENT		$2,500 IN PRICE ADJUSTMENTSΩ ON SELECT TRIMS	$21,759♦ TUCSON L 5-SPEED MANUAL. DELIVERY & DESTINATION INCLUDED.

5 YEAR WARRANTY
100,000 KM
COMPREHENSIVE LIMITED WARRANTY††

5-year/100,000 km Comprehensive Limited Warranty
5-year/100,000 km Powertrain Warranty
5-year/100,000 km Emission Warranty

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™The Hyundai names, logos, product names, feature names, images and slogans are trademarks owned by Hyundai Auto Canada Corp. †Finance offers available O.A.C. from Hyundai Financial Services based on a new 2013 Santa Fe 2.4L FWD Auto/Accent 4 Door L 6-Speed Manual/Elantra GT GL 6-Speed Manual (includes $750 in price adjustments)/Elantra L 6-Speed Manual (includes $500 in price adjustments)/Tucson L 5-Speed Manual with an annual finance rate of 1.99%/0%/0%/0%/0.99% for 84 months. Bi-weekly payments are $167/$82/$110/$94/$124. No down payment required. Cost of Borrowing is $2,038/$0/$0/$0/$772. Finance offers include Delivery and Destination of $1,760/$1,495/$1,495/$1,495/$1,760. Registration, insurance, PPSA, fees, levies, charges, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. Financing example: 2013 Elantra L 6-Speed Manual for $16,944 at 0% per annum equals $94 bi-weekly for 84 months for a total obligation of $16,944. Cash price is $16,944. Cost of Borrowing is $0. Example price includes $500 price adjustment, Delivery and Destination of $1,495. Registration, insurance, PPSA, fees, levies, charges, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ▼Fuel consumption for 2013 Santa Fe 2.4L FWD Auto (HWY 6.7L/100KM, City 10.1L/100KM)/2013 Accent 4 Door L 6-Speed Manual (HWY 5.3L/100KM; City 7.1L/100KM)/2013 Elantra GT GL 6-Speed Manual (HWY 5.3L/100KM; City 7.8L/100KM)/ 2013 Elantra Sedan L 6-Speed Manual (HWY 5.2L/100KM; City 7.1L/100KM)/2013 Tucson L 5-Speed Manual (HWY 7.7L/100KM, City 10.4L/100KM) are based on Manufacturer Testing. Actual fuel efficiency may vary based on driving conditions and the addition of certain vehicle accessories. Fuel economy figures are used for comparison purposes only. ♦Price of models shown 2013 Santa Fe 2.0T Limited AWD/Accent 4 Door GLS Auto/Elantra GT SE Tech 6-Speed Auto/Elantra Limited/Tucson Limited AWD is $40,259/$20,094/$27,844/$24,794/$34,109. Prices include Delivery and Destination charges of $1,760/$1,495/$1,495/$1,495/$1,760. Registration, insurance, PPSA, fees, levies, charges, license fees and all applicable taxes are excluded. Delivery and destination charge includes freight, P.D.E., dealer admin fees and a full tank of gas. ΩPrice adjustments are calculated against the vehicle's starting price. Price adjustments of up to $2,000/$1,250/$2,000/$1,750/$2,500 available on 2013 Santa Fe/Accent 4 Door/Elantra GT/ Elantra Sedan/Tucson with the exception of the base models (2013 Santa Fe 2.4L FWD Auto/Accent 4 Door L 6-Speed Manual/Elantra GT GL 6-Speed Manual/Elantra L 6-Speed Manual/Tucson L 5-Speed Manual); however the price adjustments of $750/$500 for the Elantra GT GL 6-Speed Manual/Elantra L 6-Speed Manual are available in the finance offers set forth above. Price adjustments applied before taxes. Offer cannot be combined or used in conjunction with any other available offers. Offer is non-transferable and cannot be assigned. No vehicle trade-in required. †Ω♦Offers available for a limited time, and subject to change or cancellation without notice. See dealer for complete details. Dealer may sell for less. Inventory is limited, dealer order may be required. ††Hyundai's Comprehensive Limited Warranty coverage covers most vehicle components against defects in workmanship under normal use and maintenance conditions.

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Murray Hyundai White Rock
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Surrey, 604-538-7022
D#30780

Maple Ridge Hyundai
23213 Lougheed Highway
Maple Ridge, 604-467-3401
D#7356

Abbotsford Hyundai
30250 Automall Dr.
Abbotsford, 604-857-2622
D#9390

Mertin Hyundai
45753 Yale Rd.
Chilliwack, 604-702-1000
D#30337

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Vancouver, 604-292-8188
D#31042